



The Beacon

Bethania Lutheran Church
1-805-688-4637
www.bethanialutheran.net

November 2020

621 Atterdag Rd, Solvang CA 93463
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The Election is this Tuesday... I Wonder if We've Already Lost

This Tuesday (Nov. 3) our country will go through a national election during one of the most divisive times in my lifetime. Because of the pandemic people have already been voting for weeks and many more will vote on Tuesday. We may or may not have a winner for the Presidential Election announced by Tuesday night, but at some point soon, our nation will either reelect the president or choose someone else to take the helm. A lot of people have vested much into the outcome of this election and no matter what happens there will be many who are happy and many who are disappointed. Regardless of who wins the Presidency, I have to wonder – have we already lost?



Evidence of this divisiveness has been quite prevalent even in our little bubble of a community. Our local Facebook groups are rife with demeaning language of those who support either side of the political spectrum, candidate signs (both municipal and national) from both sides are being stolen or destroyed, and local politics has become “callout” politics. It feels like the tenets of our democracy are being sacrificed because people care more about their side “winning” than preserving the values upon which our country was founded. I can only imagine this boils over after election results are announced. Whenever that announcement happens, winners of those elections will be declared, but again, have we already lost? What’s the point if the result is that in our minds our neighbor becomes only people who think and vote like we do and everyone else falls to the other side of the line in the sand we’ve drawn?

As we enter a new stage of this country, with whomever is elected, I’d like to offer some suggestions for us, not just as a church community, but also as members of the greater SYV community. First, if your candidate/party/policy/whatever wins after the election, please take that win with grace and dignity. Celebrate this for yourself but realize there are many people whose person/party/whatever lost and might be processing whatever that means to them. This is not a time to pour salt in wounds, but a time where we need to heal as a nation, regardless of who the next president is.

Second, if your candidate/party/policy/whatever does not have the outcome you were hoping for, take time to process that, but don’t let it turn you against your neighbor. Find people to process with. Remember that the story of our nation is long from over and this time is but a small part of it. Also remember, no matter what happens on Nov. 3, for each of us love still exists, kindness still exists, compassion still exists, the ability to determine the kind of person we are and the person Christ calls us to be are still avenues available to us and nothing that happens this election will change that, unless you allow it to.

Finally, I want to say that you as an individual and as a member of this community have so much power to shape the reactions after Nov. 3. Wherever you stand on the spectrum, you can make sure you live out your faith in gracious and compassionate ways that hopefully will be a light for others to see and emulate. We are a church of diverse political affiliations and that’s probably one of our greatest strengths. We are not united in how we think and vote, but rather by God’s love for each of us. That love and our call to share that love with others transcends politics. After Nov. 3, I really believe this will be a much needed asset for the rest of the country to

witness, and hopefully, emulate. One thing will definitely not be different after the election: We will still be Bethania Lutheran Church. We will still be a community called to be God's hands and feet for the world. Whatever Nov. 4 looks like, I take comfort in knowing that you all will still be a part of our community and our shared ministry.

In Christ's Unifying Love,
Pastor Chris Brown

Youth and Family Ministry

Greetings,

Virtual Sunday School is available on our Bethania YouTube channel. Attachments and materials list are shown in the weekly service email.

Our scheduled large social events have pended due to our current pandemic. I am hopeful that we may organize the Rummage Sale, Youth Bake Sale, and other fundraisers in 2021.

ELCA Youth Gathering to Minneapolis was rescheduled for **July 2022**. High schoolers and parents are welcome, please contact me.

Vacation Bible School will be **June 2021**. Each year VBS grows in attendance as children excitedly return and bring more friends along. Our volunteers are an integral part of this event! There are so many ways to get involved; like supplies. If you have any items to lend or would like to donate, please see below:

Masking tape & Silver duct tape
X-Large cardboard boxes to build a bridge
White & Blue iridescent paper
Artificial Christmas trees (Thank you, Bridget)

Stacks of white & blue & black paper
White & Blue fairy lights
Polyester fiberfill/ batting (Thank you, Tone)
2 pairs of rain boots (adult size)

Thank you for the support!
With kindness and love,

Livier Ghamari-Brown, Director of Youth & Family Ministry
livierghamari@yahoo.com **(909) 962-9366**

Bethania Preschool & After School is Back in Session

Bethania Preschool & After School is still here and still going strong! We have become accustomed to the new protocols we are following, seems to have become second nature by now. The children in both programs are doing very well.

We had our Bethania Pumpkin Patch here on site on Oct. 21. The Moon family transported and several other parents helped to gather and load the pumpkins, and then unload them here. The children were able to come to the "patch" and pick their pumpkin. The School Age children were so excited that they were included in this exciting time for them.

We also had our "Halloween Parade" on Friday Oct. 30th. The children came in their costumes and lined up on the playground along the fencing and family and friends drove by waving and honking horns. We then went "trick or treating" around Bethania to all the classroom doors and office.

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We will be closed for Veteran's Day Nov. 11. We will also close at 3 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 25th and be closed on Nov. 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving.

I want to thank all of you for understanding and adhering to our necessary policy of not coming on site while we are in session. I really appreciate your understanding.

"Forever on Thanksgiving Day the heart will find the pathway home."— **Wilbur D. Nesbit**

Grateful, thankful, blessed,
Eileen

Faith in Action

Brown Bag Senior Breakfast: Nov. 15th Packing

"After a lifetime of hard work, many older adults find themselves facing an impossible choice — to pay for groceries or medical care. And as the baby-boom generation ages, the number of seniors facing hunger is only expected to increase." (*Feeding America website*)

Our next socially distanced packing day will be Sunday, Nov. 15th. Check the bulletin and emails for confirmation of date and time.

Local seniors rely on our little brown bags for their breakfasts. The bags are intended to provide items which can be eaten while taking medications and to guarantee a morning meal before their Meals on Wheels delivery. Some SYV seniors are living in such difficult circumstances that they do not have enough food for their meals and medication-taking needs. We have made it a priority to help these seniors be more secure by providing our little brown bags, which the Buellton Senior Center currently distributes.

We continue to collect items for the bags. The church is open daily (usually from 9-5) and you can drop off items inside. Or, you can leave them at the church office during the week or drop them off on the packing day. You can also make a donation and earmark it "Brown Bag Breakfasts".

- Protein Drinks (such as Ensure or Atkins)
- Soft Granola/Cereal Bars
- Protein Bars
- Oatmeal Packets (Protein type)
- Instant Cup of Soup/Lunch or Noodles
- Fruit Cups or Applesauce
- Pudding (non-refrigerated)
- Small Juice Boxes or Plastic Bottles of Fruit Juices (such as Apple, Cranberry, Orange)

A big THANK YOU for your donations and support. A special thank you to Betty Madsen for her ongoing support of this project. YOUR PARTICIPATION, in whatever way you are able, makes a difference in the health and happiness of someone living right here in our valley. Thank you!

—Linda Marzullo
Chairman, Social Ministry Committee
805-688-5219, 805-688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net

Emergency Food Distribution Site at Bethania Drive up and Walk up - Tuesdays, 5:15-6:45 pm

Bethania continues operating as an Emergency USDA Food Distribution site. Distribution is through drive up or walk up line each Tuesday. There are no restrictions on income or family size at this time. We serve people from all walks of life, and in all types of circumstances.

In this month of Thanksgiving, I want to say “thank you” to all of the volunteers who have helped make this program work. From the unloading, to the packing, to bagging produce, to set up, to distribution, to clean up – we have the best volunteers and the most dedicated. We have 96 volunteers who have helped or are still helping, so I cannot name them all – but they have all been wonderful.

I also want to express gratitude to those who have donated food items and to all of you who have contributed funds to help us keep going. Special thanks to: **Bent Olsen / Olsen's Danish Village** for the cookies; **El Rancho Market** for the bread items; **Veggie Rescue** who have provided us tomatoes, onions and other produce; **Carolynn Petersen** has donated fresh veggies; **Finley Farms** who have donated produce; and the numerous individuals and groups have also contributed to help us keep doing this work. Recently, **Los Olivos Rotary** donated \$2000.00 and they have also taken on making Treat Bags for children two times a month. **Presbyterian Church Deacons** have also donated to the Blessing Box needs. Thank you to all who donated in some way or another – it all helps!

Sometimes the items we receive from FoodBank are not that helpful for families. Weekly we purchase food items to supplement our FoodBank items. Some of the things we purchase: Tuna, Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Chili, Corn, Cereal, Granola Bars, Peanut Butter and other canned protein items.

You can make a financial donation by sending funds to the church office marked “Tuesday Food Dist.” or you can donate through Push Pay on our website. Your donations and those of many others have continued to make this possible – thank you! So many people coming through our Tuesday lines have expressed their appreciation and gratitude for this distribution.

We can always use donations of protein items and items such as macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, rice, and cereal. Donations can be left in the church or you can contact me to drop off items. **We also distribute diapers and wipes, which are very needed.** Donations are appreciated in this area also.

If you would like to help, please contact me. We continue to need your prayers and support for this mission.

**–Linda Marzullo
Chairman, Social Ministry Committee
688-5219, 688-3059 or vikingpressprint@verizon.net**

Blessing Box

A story from tonight – Rick and I were unloading food for Tuesday’s bag packing into the church, and a grandmother drove up to the box with her two grandchildren. I had just replenished the box with a few items but it wasn’t quite full, and I was shutting the door, when the boy jumped out of their van and said, “Oh no, please tell me it isn’t CLOSED!” I assured him that the box is never closed and of course he could help himself. Their mother was working and the grandmother was watching the two children, and she had no food. They picked out Top Ramen and a can of Spaghetti-os. I was a little concerned, so I asked if they would like some cereal. They

shouted "YES!" I went into the church office (where we store some of the Blessing Box items) and picked up two kinds of cereal, boxed milk, some cookies, and a few other things. When I came back to the box, the boy said, "Cheerios!" and the girl said, "Marshmallows!" Of course, since they each chose a different cereal, I gave them both boxes. The little boy actually hugged the box to himself. The little girl was so appreciative, especially when I passed out the "extra" items to her. As she explained everything to her grandmother, the grandmother was almost crying. She kept saying "Gracias, gracias, gracias." We have stories like this almost every day that we could share.

The use of the **Blessing Box** in front of our church has been a huge eye-opener as to how many in our valley are living on the edge. This appears to be an issue beyond the current COVID-19 crisis.

If you or someone you know is in need, please be aware that food is available at Bethania in the Blessing Box as well as at our USDA Tuesday Food Distribution, which is held from 5:15-6:45 each Tuesday.

Whatever you use in your home – that is what we need for the Blessing Box! Items needed for the Blessing Box include canned and dried foods, snacks, cereal, coffee, condiments, cleaning supplies (such as dish soap, laundry soap, toilet bowl cleaners), cooking oil, personal care items, meal kits, tuna, chicken, mac & cheese...you get the idea. We have even been blessed with produce from local gardeners, home canned jam and cakes from Albertson's.

Feel free to put your items straight into the box on the Atterdag Road side of the church. Or contact the church office or me if you like: (805) 688-5219 or (805) 688-3059. You may also email me at vikingpressprint@verizon.net if you need to arrange to meet.

THANK YOU to all who have contributed items, donated, and helped to keep this project going. Our goal with the Blessing Box was to have anyone in the community be able to access assistance at any time, without any stigma, from the items within it. Special thanks to Elizabeth Breen, Donna Hinsbeeck, Kristyl Downey and Rick Marzullo, Jan Zigler, Birgitte Pedersen and many other donors who are all assisting in keeping our "mighty pantry on a post" filled for people who need it.

If you are interested in helping to keep the box stocked, just drop off your items in the box itself or at the church office. You can also contact us for a day/time to sign up to help check the box – or just make a point of stopping by at a time good for you to see that it is filled. Thank you to all who already do this!

- Linda Marzullo

Food Needs at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz

Our friends at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz currently have 32 families who are currently in quarantine due to COVID-19. Pastor Esteban and his wife Angie are taking care of these families by bringing them meals and helping with their other needs, in addition to supplying weekly lunch which they take to field workers and distributing food to those in their congregation who are in need. The congregation members at Iglesia are among those who are truly struggling, along with many people here in the Santa Ynez Valley. The people who do the work to put food on the tables for all of us do not have enough to eat – something to think about.

Pastor Esteban and his wife Angie continue to ask for help for members of Iglesia as their pantry is out of basic food needs for their members. Iglesia could also use additional financial support at this time to help put gas in their van so they can travel, buy needed items (such as diapers, sanitary napkins and formula) and help with

emergencies. If you can help by donating some of the items below, please leave them in the box in the sanctuary or contact me for drop off. Your donations are making a difference in a life and in families of hard-working people. If you would like to make a financial donation, please be sure to earmark it for "Iglesia".

If you are able to make a run with a load of items, please let me know.

Urgently needed: Dry Beans – Rice – Maseca (corn flour) – All Purpose Flour – Small Pasta – Sugar – Salt – Coffee – Snacks (such as Cookies) – Bottled Juice – Feminine Products – Shampoo – Laundry Detergent – Dish Soap – Bleach and Cleaning Products – Baby Diapers (All sizes especially 5&6).

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for all our ministries at Bethania.

– Linda Marzullo

Grocery Bags Are Needed

We currently need brown paper grocery bags and plastic bags for our emergency food distribution. You can drop them off in the narthex or at the Church Office. You may send also contact us at 805-688-4637 or bethanialutheranach@gmail.com and we will find a way to get the bags.

Noisy Offering

The next "Noisy Offering" is coming. *You may put your donation in the bucket during that the service (recorded on Thursday, Nov. 19th) or drop it off at the church office on Nov. 23rd. Our donations from the offering will help purchase Angel Gifts for the children at Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz (see related article).*

What will our donations be used towards?

Donations on Noisy Sunday will help us kick start the purchase of Christmas gifts for needy children who attend Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz in Santa Maria. The church provides the "wish lists" and we provide the Angels who try to fill the requests. Any amount, large or small, is much appreciated so that we can purchase clothing, jackets, blankets, and shoes in addition to toys for these children.

We all really "make change for the better" with the Noisy Sunday! So bring your coins and make some noise on Nov. 19th or 23rd. Together, we can CHANGE a child's world!

– Linda Marzullo, Social Ministry Committee

Wanted: Thrivent Members

If you are a Thrivent Member, we need you! Every Thrivent member has the possibility of receiving seed money (\$250.00) for two projects a year. Please contact the church office to let us know if you are a Thrivent member and would be willing to help with a project. Some of our needs are listed below:

- Safety Vests for Food Dist. Workers (starting to get dark earlier)
- New Food Pantry: Paint / Shelves / Garage Door / etc.
- Food items for the coming Food Pantry
- Diapers/Wipes Drive for Tuesday distribution
- Heavy duty small folding tables for Tuff Shed and Distribution

Doing a project is simple and fun. We can help with filling out the forms if you need help. Ask Kristyl for more info.

Events and Occasions

Time change

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour on Oct. 31, 2020 at bedtime. Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 am, Sunday, Nov. 1.

Illuminating the Night for All Saints

This has been a difficult time for all of us. It has been especially hard as we lose friends and loved ones and are unable to gather together to celebrate and mourn the loss of those we care about.

On All Saints Sunday this year, we have a chance to gather safely and remember those who have passed in the last 12 months. We will be holding a “drive through” luminaria event on the church grounds to celebrate and honor the Saints who have gone to their heavenly home.

Luminarias and lights will be lighting the night as we drive through and remember those who have passed since last year.

Guides will direct you through the event which will be held on Sunday evening, Nov. 1st. The drive through will open starting at 4:30 for those who wish to be through the line and home before sunset. The event will continue through 6:30 p.m.

Please contact Kristyl in the Church office or Linda Marzullo if you have any questions.

November Worship Schedule

We will meet on the following days for worship outside and in person:

Thursday, Nov. 5 (recording for Sunday, Nov. 8)

There will not be a service on Nov. 12 (a service from Pastor Chris' former church will be available on Sunday, Nov. 15th)

Thursday, Nov. 19 (recording for Sunday, Nov. 22)

Monday, Nov. 23 - due to Thanksgiving (recording for Sunday, Nov. 29 - the first Sunday of Advent and it may not be outside, in-person, may only be for people leading worship. We will let everyone know.)

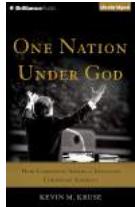
If you would like to attend any of these worship services, please contact Kristyl in the Church Office and she will send you the procedures to attend in person.

Virtual Theo Pub

Theology Pub will be gathering on Zoom on Nov. 12th at 7 pm. An email will be sent out with the link to join on Zoom and we'll post the link on social media. See you then!



Book Club



Book Club will be continuing on Zoom in November and we'll be starting a new book called [One Nation Under God](#) by Kevin Kruse. If you would like to join, an email will be sent out with the Zoom link. We'll be gathering virtually on Nov. 19th and discussing part I. You can get the book at The Book Loft or Amazon, but please consider supporting our local businesses.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

When we think of Thanksgiving dinner, we may think of place cards that tell us where to sit. Now, we are thinking of a place holder - to remind you that you hold a place in your schedule for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service with St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the SYV Jewish Community and Bethania that will be held Nov. 24 at 7 pm virtually through Zoom. Look for a Zoom link which will be emailed to you.

November Office Hours

The Church Office will be closed Nov. 11 for Veteran' Day, and Nov. 26 & 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Advent

Advent begins, Nov. 29. The church will have our traditional Advent decorations in the church. The church is open for mediation and prayer from about 9 am - 5 pm daily.

REVERSE **ADVENT CALENDAR**

*Add an Item to a Box each day. After Christmas,
bring to the church for Bethania's Food Pantry.
(Items are suggestions. You may donate any item you choose.)*

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans



Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering

Each year the women of Bethania make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. And, on the ELCA Day of Service we make personal care kits and school kits for LWR as well. In October we drive these items to Mt. Cross Lutheran Church in Camarillo for the annual In-Gathering. To save on shipping costs, churches around the country deliver their LWR items to various collection points. After that they are shipped to LWR warehouses and to people around the world.

We had 97 School Kits, 83 personal care kits and 10 quilts to ship.

Besides driving our items, we also deliver items from Hope Lutheran Church in Atascadero. One of their members brings their items to us and we take them to Mt. Cross. It is truly a collaborative effort.

Thanks to Brenda Knudsen for her coordination, and Bob Jensen and Bridget Cassara for taking everything to Mt. Cross.

- Kristyl Downey



Taco Plates to Help our Friends!

Pastor Esteban and Angie Salazar are hoping to pull together a Taco Plate sale at Bethania in November. We will let you know details as it happens. Plates will be pre-order and include 5 different delicious tacos. This will be a fundraiser for Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz. Be sure to let your friends and family know that a Taco sale is coming – drive up to pick up and super safe.

Christmas Angels & Preschool Presents: *Calling all Angels!*

Would you like to be an “angel” to a needy child? Dust off your angel wings if you would be interested in helping to make Christmas special for a child this year. Because of COVID-19 and the stress on families at Iglesia this year, we have agreed to “adopt” 75 children. So, we need everyone’s help to make this happen! Any way you can help, large or small, is appreciated....

The **CHRISTMAS ANGEL** project helps the members of Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz by providing Christmas gifts for needy children. Iglesia is a mission start up church based at Bethel in Santa Maria, which serves the very poorest of the farm workers who often live in difficult circumstances. Oftentimes families share one bed or live in someone else’s garage without heat or running water. Many of the children may not have shoes, warm clothing or enough to eat. Agricultural conditions, weather and the economy directly affect these hard-working families, especially during the winter months. With the COVID crisis, many of these people have been infected and house bound for weeks. As we enter into the slow growing season, these families are even further behind in their ability to have enough food to eat, let alone provide Christmas gifts for their children. (*The Noisy Offering in November will help support the Christmas Angels/Preschool Presents gift purchases - see related article.*)

Even closer to home, the **PRESCHOOL PRESENTS** project helps to support local families who attend Bethania Preschool and After School program. These local families are chosen by Preschool Director Eileen Knotts. Your donations will assist us in purchasing gifts and other necessary items for local children, to help these families who require some assistance to make their child’s Christmas special. If you would like to shop for a Preschool child or make a donation to this project, you can earmark it “Preschool Presents”. (*This is a different donation from the Preschool Scholarship Fund.*)

Because of COVID, we are asking those of you who shop for a child to do all the wrapping at home and bring a finished single package to the drop off day in December. If you need help with wrapping, be sure to let me know.

We would be happy to have your Angelic assistance for any of these children. If you are interested in sponsoring a child through the Christmas Angel or the Preschool Presents Projects, donations of any amount are welcome. If you would prefer to do the shopping on your own, or make a contribution of an item on a child’s wish list, please let Linda Marzullo know. All of the children/families have specific needs and/or requests we are going to try to fulfill, based on their “wish lists”. As soon as we receive the “wish lists” we will be able to coordinate meeting the children’s needs. Contact Linda Marzullo if you would like to be an Angel and adopt a child through fulfilling their wish list.

Please contact **Linda Marzullo** with any questions at vikingpressprint@verizon.net, work 688-5219 or the church office.

Church Business

Council Meeting Report October 2020

The October 2020 monthly Council meeting was held at 7 pm on Oct. 15, 2020. Members present were Emily Abello, Wendy Bevier, Josh Bratt, Pastor Chris, Stewart Fries, Lynne Hemming, Carol Lake, Lori McConnell, Carolyn Schuit, and Anne Twigg. Jeanelle Needham was not present.

The October 2020 Council meeting was again conducted via Zoom Conference technology.

The council discussed:

- Christmas services in view of the Covid-19 pandemic
- Attendance at outdoor services to date
- Thinking ahead about protocols to be satisfied before resuming “in sanctuary” services
- Future council email voting procedures
- Request from Iglesia Luterana Santa Cruz to increase Angel Gift commitment for this year
- The possibility of utilizing the janitorial closet for some food distribution storage
- A review of council terms in view of the delayed congregational meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020.

The Peace of Christ be with you all,
Stewart Fries, Bethania Council President
805-245-0041

Treasurer's Report - September Financial Report

Balance Sheet:

- The cash position remains strong at \$49,608 in general checking
- The money market fund has increased by nearly \$12,000 due to contributions from several sources for the food pantry project and food distribution
- Fund accounts remain unchanged
- All liabilities are current and there is no indebtedness

Profit & Loss Budget Performance:

Income:

- Other income only includes the contribution from the Endowment Fund and the income from the Laurel Street parsonage. Income for the year to date is at 141% of budget
- Offerings for the month were down significantly by \$5,735 and for the year to date by \$11,486, or 91% of budget
- Other receipts were down by \$1,143 for the month and down by \$1,551 for the year or 90% of budget
- Total income for the month was down by \$5,638 and for the first 9 months down by \$9,872.

Expenses:

- Salary and benefits were on budget for the month, and were over budget at 103% for the first 9 months.
- Staff expenses were down for the month by \$164 and for the first 9 months were at 76% of budget

- Office administration was up slightly by \$91 for the month and up at 101% of budget for the first 9 months
- All other expenses (including utilities and property expenses) were at or below budget for the month and for the year to date.
- For the month of September we sustained a deficit of \$3,941 and for the first 9 months a deficit of \$20,656. However, it should be noted that \$13,905 of the deficit is attributed to the PPP loan that we used to help offset the preschool payroll and utilities. Taking that into account, the church actually would be in a \$6,751 deficit.

Overall:

The major concern is the drop in the monthly offerings. For three of the last five months our offerings have been below the budget from \$1,750 to \$5,300. The contributions from the Endowment Fund have alleviated that decrease, but we cannot continue to count on that going forward into 2021.

Expenses have been well controlled, but we will experience some additional payroll expenses after the first of the year, as we know that Pastor's benefits will increase by at least 3%.

- Lori McConnell, Treasurer

In Our Hearts, In Our Prayers

We uplift in prayer the following people in our congregation and community. May we minister to and bless all who need God's help.

For Comfort for the Family and Loved ones of Tenna Laugesen. Tenna died Sept. 27, 2020.

For Comfort for the Family and Loved ones of Bob Jackson. Bob died the week of Sept. 8, 2020.

For Comfort for the Family and Loved Ones of Marty Steyer. Marty died the weekend of Oct. 17-18.

Andy Blanton, Dennis Bornhoft, Annette Clausen, Kerstin Emerson, Sharon Espinoza, Chris Frederiksen, Sheldon & Pat Green, Shannon Hazard, Belle Hoger, Suzanne Hollrah, Jennifer Howell, Glen Jacobsen, Michael Jech, Robert & Gail Jennings, Gladys Jorgensen, Jeanne Labarge, Agnes Larsen, Betsy & Steve Logan, Ariana Macias, John Marzullo, Brian Merrick, Denise Morris, Robert & Shelly Myers, Roger Myers, Eric and Mallory Oftebro, Barbara & Charles Osborn, Marie Ostertag, Kate Pearrson, Chèle Ludwig Petersen, Doyle Phillips, Vince Pillow, Joyce Purvis, Tim Reed, Robin Schatan, Judy Stamat, Clay Tremblay-McGaw and those who serve our country both at home and abroad.

Thank You's

From the Cemetery Committee...

Sending a HUGE Thank you to all who helped at the cemetery workday. It was so great to see you. We so appreciate all the hard work...the cemetery really looks good.

Sincerely,

Betty Petersen (chair/sec)

It has been a while since I came to help for a Cemetery Work-Day. It was good to see so many helpers: Marie Jaeger, Helen FitzGerald, Shirley Heap, Betty Madsen, Koyie & Kyla Kekuewa, Lynne Hemming, Raelynn Pedersen, Bruce Pedersen, Nancy, Sarah (and her boyfriend) & Jorgé Puder, Rod Nielsen, Rikka Rasmussen, and Betty

Petersen. We raked leaves, moved rock, weeded, set a gravestone, trimmed plants, removed plants, added gravel to the areas between plots, added mulch, and picked up our trimmings.

I add my thanks to Betty's for this great bunch of volunteers who took time on a Saturday to do a fall cleaning at our cemetery. (Photos by Betty Petersen)

- Kristyl Downey



Pictures from Food Distribution

(Thanks to Stephen Brown)



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Preschool/After School
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Grateful for Our Blessings